

## TYPIFICATION OF *SALIX CORDIFOLIA* (SALICACEAE)

**Robert D. Dorn**

8481 Road 39

Lingle, WY 82223, USA

linglebird@yahoo.com

### ABSTRACT

*Salix cordifolia* Pursh was mostly considered a valid species into the 1950's. No type was cited by Pursh nor preserved. In 1965 it was subordinated as a "phase" of *Salix glauca* L. The taxon is here typified and the correct varietal name is proposed. *Phytologia* 90(3): 315-317 (December, 2008).

**KEY WORDS:** *Salix cordifolia*, Salicaceae, typification

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*Salix cordifolia* was described by Frederick Pursh (1814) from a Labrador plant grown in the garden of George Anderson in England. No type was designated. A specimen in the Hooker Herbarium at K reputedly from Anderson's garden was thought to be from this plant, but a comment by Hooker (1838) suggests otherwise. He noted that, "The plant thus named for me by Mr Borrer, who is probably acquainted with the original plant cultivated by Mr Anderson, little deserves the appellation of *cordifolia*, its leaves being more frequently acute than retuse at the base." Pursh described the leaves as "basi cordatis." William Borrer "evidently tried to cultivate ... all the hardy exotic plants he could obtain" (Seaward 2002). This specimen could not be located at K. There is a crude tracing of it at GH and it shows a plant with non-cordate leaves and catkins. The label reads in part, "*S. cordifolia* Pursh" with "Garden: from G. Anderson" beneath, and "Borrer" beneath that. A possible duplicate of this collection is from the Schweinitz Herbarium at PH, but the leaves are narrower and younger than on the K specimen. Since both specimens have catkins, and Pursh did not see catkins, neither can be an original type.

Schneider (1918) gave a detailed discussion of the treatment of this taxon. He considered it a valid species and it was considered as such into the 1950's (Fernald 1950, Ball 1952). Argus (1965) did a

detailed study of this group in North America and subordinated *S. cordifolia* to a “phase” under *S. glauca* L. More recently he used the names *S. glauca* ssp. *callicarpaea* (Trautv.) Böcher or *S. glauca* var. *callicarpaea* (Trautv.) Argus for this taxon (Argus 1997). The former name was used correctly but the latter name was not.

Before providing the correct varietal name, the taxon should be typified. Fernald (1926) cited several collections that matched Pursh’s original description. One of these can serve as a neotype.

*Salix cordifolia* Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept. 611. 1814 [1813].

**Neotype here designated:** Canada, Newfoundland, Ingornachoix Bay, Dry rocky limestone barrens, near sea-level, August 1, 1910, *Fernald & Wiegand 3219* (GH!).

*Salix cordifolia* Pursh var. *macounii* (Rydb.) Schneid., Bot. Gaz. 66: 347. 1918. Established var. *cordifolia* autonym.

*Salix glauca* L. var. **cordifolia** (Pursh) Dorn, **stat. & comb. nov.**  
Based on *Salix cordifolia* Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept. 611. 1814 [1813].

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